

# DHS At A Glance - FY 2005 -

STATE OF MICHIGAN Department of Human Services

#### **MISSION**

The Michigan Department of Human Services assists children, families and vulnerable adults to be safe, stable and self-supporting.

#### **VISION**

#### We will:

- Reduce poverty.
- Help all children have a great start in life.
- · Help our clients achieve their full potential.

#### **EMPLOYEES**

In FY 2005, DHS had approximately 10,045 employees. Nearly 90 percent of staff are located in local offices as family independence specialists, eligibility specialists, child and adult service workers, disability examiners, clerical and investigative staff. The remaining employees provide management and support for field staff and provide support services such as data processing, policy development, personnel, and financial management, and operate centrally administered programs or work in residential care facilities.

#### **LOCATIONS**

The central administrative offices are located in Lansing. Services to clients are available through a county office network. Some of the more heavily populated areas have several district offices. For instance, Wayne County has 23 district offices and Oakland County has 5.

#### **BUDGET**

The FY 2006 appropriation total is \$4.4 billion. Child day care is one of DHS's largest programs, with an appropriation of \$465 million. The Family Independence Program (FIP) has appropriated funds of \$392 million. The federal government shares in the cost of FIP and State Emergency Relief (SER) and pays virtually all Food Assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) costs. The SDA (State Disability Assistance) program is state funded; the FY 2006 appropriation is \$34.5 million.

# **SERVICE PROGRAMS**

#### **Adoption Services**

Adoption services plans and supervises adoptive placement of permanent state or DHS-supervised court wards. The Michigan Children's Institute superintendent acts as legal guardian for permanent state wards. Payment and medical assistance to parents adopting special needs children may also be provided.

#### **Central Adoption Registry**

DHS maintains a file of statements by former parents and former adult siblings consenting to or denying release of identifying information to an adult adoptee. The Registry is accessed by the court or adoption agency only, upon request by the adult adoptee.

# **Adult Community Placement**

Adult Community Placement provides community placement coordination for licensed, residential care for aged, physically handicapped or developmentally disabled adults who are unable to live alone.

#### **Adult Independent Living Services**

Independent Living Services (ILS) offers a range of Medicaid and non-Medicaid services to individuals of any age who require consultation or assistance to maintain and maximize functional capacity within their own homes or other independent living arrangements.

#### Children's Trust Fund (CTF)

CTF is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. CTF focuses on public awareness and education, training and technical assistance, information dissemination, and the funding of a statewide network of community-based prevention programs. CTF does not receive a state appropriation and its work is funded through children's license plate sales, direct donations, trust income, grants, and other fundraising activities.

## **Community Support Division (CSD)**

The CSD is responsible for family preservation and community support services. It operates as a resource to local offices and

provides programs and funding for services that assist in keeping families together. Family preservation programs such as Wraparound, an ongoing intensive family service, and Families First of Michigan, an intensive crisis intervention program, provide families with the support they need at a time when out-of-home placement of a youth is eminent. The CSD provides funding for community-based programs through the use of the Child Safety and Permanency Plan, Child Protection/Community Partners, and Strong Families Safe Children. Other community based programs offered through the CSD are Family Together Building Solutions, Family Reunification Program, Family Group Decision Making, 0-3, and Early On.

## **Disability Determination Service (DDS)**

DDS determines the eligibility of adults and children who apply for benefits under the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs. Clients may also be referred by DDS to other agencies for job training, and health services. DDS also makes disability decisions for disability related programs, such as State Disability Assistance and Medicaid. Disability decisions are also made for the state retirement system.

## **Families First of Michigan**

Families First provides short-term crisis services as an alternative to out-of-home care for children of families referred by protective services, foster care, delinquency, or domestic violence. Most services are provided in the home and include parenting training and practical assistance in home management. Other family preservation programs such as wraparound are also available.

# **Children's Foster Care**

Children's Foster Care provides placement and supervision for children who are temporary or permanent court or state wards. This includes children who cannot remain at home because their parent(s) are unable to provide minimal care and supervision. Department delivered services are focused on resolving the problems which necessitated the child's removal and providing stability and permanency for the child.

# **SERVICE PROGRAMS (Cont'd)**

#### **HIV/AIDS Services**

HIV/AIDS services provides advocacy services for people who test positive for HIV or AIDS, including information, referrals and coordination of DHS services with community resources, case management and other government benefits. The Insurance Assistance Program or the Insurance Assistance Program Plus pays the private medical insurance premiums for those with HIV or AIDS who qualify.

#### **Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ)**

BJJ provides care and supervision of adjudicated juveniles referred to the DHS by the courts. Services encompass a range of prevention, rehabilitation and residential programs to juvenile offenders ages 12 through 20. Public placement options range from community based programs to secure facilities with specialized treatment. Programs are comprehensive and individualized providing appropriate educational services, mental health services, family involvement and reintegration services.

#### **Domestic and Sexual Violence Services**

Provides grants to 44 nonprofit community-based agencies that assist victims of domestic violence and their children. These agencies cover Michigan's 83 counties and provide 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, individual and group counseling, information about legal options, and supportive services for children. Many of the agencies also provide community education and prevention programs and information on batterers intervention programs available in the local community.

Provide grants to 29 community-based programs that provide rape prevention and services. These agencies provide 24-hour crisis line and crisis intervention services, individual and group counseling, and information on legal options.

#### Migrant Affairs

Migrant Services coordinates services to over 60,000 migrant agricultural workers and family members every year through 11 regional Migrant Resource Councils and the State of Michigan Interagency Migrant Services Committee. DHS services include Food Assistance; day care; State Emergency Relief; Medicaid; hospitalization; outreach and referral.

#### Information

about DHS programs and services is available by telephone at (517) 373-7394, and via Internet at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/dhs">www.michigan.gov/dhs</a> Information published in this fact sheet is accurate through September 30, 2005.

# Native American Affairs and Indian Outreach

Native American Affairs coordinates implementation of federal and state laws, including the Indian Child Welfare Act. Develops programs and policy and coordinates resources, advocacy, training, and technical assistance. Provides information & referral to health, education, employment, training, and housing opportunities.

#### **Protective Services**

Investigates reports of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children or vulnerable adults. Provides services to families to allow them to function responsibly and independently in providing care for the children for whom they are responsible.

#### **Refugee Services**

Refugee services coordinates a variety of services to eligible refugees. Services include reception and placement, short-term cash and medical assistance, comprehensive employment services, foster care for unaccompanied minors, and initial health screenings.

## Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Program

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services provides services to runaway and homeless youths and, when appropriate, their families. Services are provided through contracts with private agencies.

#### **Teen Parent Program**

Teen Parent Program provides comprehensive coordinated services to teen parents in 18 counties to assist in meeting the health and developmental needs of their children. Education, training and employment services are provided to enhance teen parents capacity to independently provide for themselves and their children.

#### **Volunteer Services**

Based on the needs of the department, volunteers are recruited, trained and placed for direct services to DHS clients, as indirect client service providers or as administrative support for the department. Community Resource Coordinators mobilize and develop community resources and develop opportunities for community service for DHS employees.

# **FINANCIAL PROGRAMS**

#### **Youth Programs**

Youth in Transition (YIT) is a funding source available to eligible teens in or exiting the abuse/neglect foster care system. These funds can pay for educational needs, job training, independent living skills training, self-esteem counseling, and other supports designed to equip teens with the skills necessary to function as successful adults. The Michigan Manpower Information and Services to Transitioning Youth (MISTY) program is a statewide, comprehensive employment, vocational and job training program that is funded and managed by Michigan Department of Human Services. The program provides funding for transitional/reintegration services for State wards (P.A. 150).

**Educational Training Vouchers (ETVs)** are scholarships awarded to YIT eligible youth and youth that were adopted from the child abuse/neglect system after their 16th birthday. These awards provide up to \$5000/year for costs related to attendance at accredited post-secondary educational programs or training.

# **Child Development and Care/ Child Day Care Services (CDC)**

CDC pays all or a portion of child day care expenses for low income families when the parent, legal guardian, or other caretaker is unavailable to provide child care due to employment, education, and/or a health/social condition for which treatment is being received. In FY 2005, a monthly average of 118,939 children received day care support.

#### **Child Support Enforcement**

Child Support Enforcement assists in establishing paternity and obtaining child support payments from non-custodial parents of both FIP and non-FIP children. Michigan collected and distributed over \$1.38 billion in support payments in FY 2005.

#### **Employment**

The Work First program provides employment and training services to clients participating in a variety of activities to become

# FINANCIAL PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

self-supporting. In FY 2005, 24,120 cases were closed due to employment. This program is administered by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth through local Michigan Works! Agencies which also administer employment & training programs to Food Assistance and other non-cash recipients. Participation in Work First is required for most families receiving FIP.

## Family Independence Program (FIP)

FIP provides cash assistance to eligible families with children. A monthly average of 74,043 families received FIP during FY 2005. A typical FIP case is composed of one parent and two children. A family with income may be eligible if the income is less than the family's needs by FIP standards. The FIP payment is the difference between the family's needs and income minus work disregards. The average FIP case payment in FY 2005 was \$421.03 per month. DHS also provides in-home, family-based services that connect the family to community resources to prevent child abuse/neglect and enhance family interactions.

#### Food Assistance Program (FAP)

FAP increases the food purchasing power of low-income households. In FY 2005, a monthly average of 420,483 cases (943,973 people) received Food Assistance. In FY 2005, a household of four with a monthly gross income of \$3,068 or less, and net income (gross income minus allowable expenses) of less than \$1,534, qualifies for benefits. Food Assistance benefits decrease as income increases. In FY 2005, monthly Food Assistance benefits averaged \$79.75 per person per month or \$2.62 per person per day.

# Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP helps meet home heating costs. During FY 2005, this program helped 458,299 households. Some households may have received more than one LIHEAP Service. LIHEAP funds for heating assistance are also available through the Home Heating Credit (Department of Treasury).

#### Medicaid (Medical Assistance, MA)

MA provides necessary health care services for FIP and SSI

recipients and other low-income people who are under age 21, caring for children, pregnant, disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. A monthly average of 1,430,069 people were eligible for MA services in FY 2005. Medicaid funds are administered by the Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH). Eligibility is determined by DHS staff.

#### State Disability Assistance (SDA)

SDA provides cash assistance to disabled adults who do not have dependent children. To qualify, a person must be unable to work for at least 90 days due to physical or mental impairment. A monthly average of 10,494 people received SDA in FY 2005. A person with income can be eligible for SDA if his/her income is less than his/her needs by SDA standards. The average SDA case payment in FY 2005 was \$249 per month.

## State Emergency Relief (SER)

SER provides limited assistance to individuals and families facing emergencies that threaten their health or safety. Covered services include: rent payments to avoid homelessness; house payments and property tax payments when foreclosure or tax sales are imminent; home repairs; assistance with home heating, electric, and water bills; and burial assistance. DHS contracts with the Salvation Army to provide emergency shelter statewide. Anyone in need may apply for State Emergency Relief. Eligibility is not limited to recipients of other DHS assistance.

#### Adult Medical Program (AMP)

AMP provides basic, outpatient health care services to low-income adults who do not qualify for Medicaid or other medical benefits. AMP is administered by DCH. DHS workers determine eligibility.

## Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The Social Security Administration manages this program for people who are blind, disabled, or elderly. It served an average of 216,506 people per month in Michigan in FY 2005. DHS pays a supplement to all SSI recipients. Recipients of SSI are also automatically eligible for Medicaid. The average annual state supplemental payment was \$263.12 per case in 2005.

# OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND ADULT LICENSING

The Office of Child and Adult Licensing (OCAL) is authorized to provide protection to vulnerable adults and children through the regulation and consultation with licensed agencies, facilities, and homes. It is comprised of three divisions.

## **Adult Foster Care and Homes for the Aged**

The division provides for the prevention of harm and the protection of vulnerable adults by licensing and regulating adult foster care homes, homes for the aged, and specialized programs for developmentally disabled and mentally ill individuals who reside in adult foster care.

At the end of 2005, the division monitored licensure for 4,578 licensed facilities with the capacity to serve 48,104 adults.

# **Child Day Care Licensing Division**

The division provides for the safety and protection of children in child care through licensing and regulating facilities. The division is committed to promoting the improvement of the health, safety, and

development of children in child care through technical assistance, consultation, and education to providers and the public. Child care facilities include both homes and centers as well as family and group day care homes.

As of January 2006 there are 59 licensing consultants responsible for 17,781 licensed or registered facilities with a capacity to serve 360,504 children.

# **Child Welfare Licensing**

The Child Welfare licensing Division provides for the safety and protection of children in out-of-home care through licensing and regulation of facilities. Licensed organizations include child-placing agencies, child caring institutions, court operated facilities, children's foster home and child and adult foster care camps.

In January 2006 there are 23 licensing consultants responsible for oversight for 8,349 facilities with a capacity of serve 93,335 children.

Department of Human Services (DHS) will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your area.